

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 323

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Staff Sergeant
Christopher M. Ward, United States Army.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely death of Staff Sergeant Christopher M. Ward, a courageous member of the United States Army who gave his life in service to our nation; and

WHEREAS, following in the patriotic tradition for which our nation's finest sons and daughters are renowned, Staff Sergeant Christopher "Chris" M. Ward was a brave and honorable member of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, twenty-four-year-old Staff Sergeant Chris Ward lost his life in the Zabul Province of Afghanistan when his armored convoy was attacked by a suicide car bomber who detonated explosives as the soldiers were helping deliver donated books to students in a school; and

WHEREAS, joining the U.S. Army shortly after his graduation from DeSoto High School in Arcadia, Florida, Chris Ward had remained in Florida for his senior year, living with his grandparents, Nancy and Howard Ward, after his mother, Joyce Ward, relocated to Oak Ridge, Tennessee, along with his two younger brothers; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Ward's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of family, his fellow soldiers, and his country are exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in defense of all that he held dear and stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, this valiant American leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the singular patriotism, courage, and commitment to duty of this exceptional soldier and human being, the late Staff Sergeant Christopher M. Ward, United States Army, whose loss is mourned by a grateful nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Staff Sergeant Christopher M. Ward, a man of impeccable character and limitless courage who stalwartly committed himself to the defense of his nation as a member of the United States Army.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Staff Sergeant Ward.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.